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A NEW SOLE FROM THE BAHAMAS

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In 1928, Nichols and Heilner[2] described and figured a rare sole from the Bahamas, which had been identified as *Gymnachirus nudus*, Kaup. Chabanaud's[3] description of the type specimen of Kaup's species, published in the same year, left little doubt that the Bahamas specimen must belong to another species. Through the kindness of Mr. J. T. Nichols, this fish (Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 9591) was sent to me on loan, and it proves to belong to a hitherto undescribed species which may be known as **Nodogymnus nicholsi**, new species.

The genus *Nodogymnus*, Chabanaud,[4] may be readily distinguished from *Gymnachirus* by the presence of two pelvic fins which are fused together, and by the absence of teeth. Two species have thus far been recognized: namely, *N. fasciatus* (Günther) from an unknown locality, and *N. zebrinus* Ribeiro from Rio de Janeiro. The single known specimen of the first of these is in the British Museum, and I have examined a rather poorly preserved example of *N. zebrinus* received from Mr. Miranda Ribeiro. The Bahamas sole differs from both species in having no trace of a pectoral fin on the ocular side; it may be further distinguished from *N. fasciatus* by the much less convex anterior profile and different coloration, and from *N. zebrinus* by the narrower cross-bars on the body.

Descriptions and figures of soles from Florida and Masschusetts, respectively identified as *Gymnachirus fasciatus* and *G. nudus*, were published by Kendall[5] in 1911, and in 1916 Nichols[6] described a new *Gymnachirus* (*G. melas*) from North Carolina. These appear to have been overlooked by Chabanaud in his valuable revision of the subfamily Achirinæ.

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[2]1928, Amer. Mus. Novit., No. 326.
[3]1928, Bull. Inst. Océan. Monaco, No. 523, p. 37.
[4]*Op. cit.*, pp. 39, 50.
[5]1911, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XL, p. 201.
[6]1916, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., XXXV, p. 71.